TWO MESSAGES FROM HIS MAIESTY

To Both

Howſes of Parliament.

28 of Aprill 1642.

The Firſt, Concerning his Refuſall to Paſſe the Bill for the *Militia*.

The Second, Concerning Sir *Iohn Hotham's* Refuſall to give his *Maieſty* Entrance into the Towne of *Hull*.

Read in both Houſes of Parliament, 30 April 1642.

C R

25.

London Printed for *Iohn Wright*, 1642.

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

His Majesties Message to both Houses of Parliament, *April* 28, 1642. Concerning His Refusall to passe the *Bill* for the *Militia*.

WE have with great deliberation and patience weighed and considered (it concerning Us much, to weigh the consequences of every Law before we passe it) your Bill lately sent to Us for the setling of the *Militia*, and though it hath not beene usuall to give any reason for Our refusall to passe any Bill, (it being absolutely in Our power to passe, or not passe any Act sent unto Us by you, if we conceive it prejudiciall to Our selfe, or inconvenient for Our Subjects, for whom we are trusted, and must one day give an account) Yet in this businesse of the *Militia*, which being misunderstood amongst Our good Subjects, hath been used as an argument, as if we were not vigilant enough for the publike safety: And lest we should be thought lesse constant in Our Resolutions, and this Bill to be the same we sent unto you; wee have thought fit to give you, and all the world particular satisfaction why we cannot, ought not, must not passe this Bill, being the first Publike Bill, to Our remembrance, wae have refused this Parliament; And therefore wee must complaine, That having expressed Our selfe so clearely and particularly to you in this point, you should presse any thing upon Us, which you could not but foresee that we must refuse, except we departed from those Resolutions, grounded upon so much reason, we had so earnestly before acquainted you with, and against which you have not given one Argument to satisfie Our Judgement.

We are pleaſed that you have declined the unwarrantable courſe of your Ordinance (to the which we are confident Our good Subjects would never have yeelded conſent) and choſen this onely right way of impoſing on Our People, which wee would have allowed, but for the reaſon hereafter mentioned.

We refuſed to conſent to your Ordinance, as for other things, ſo for that the power was put into the perſons nominated therein by direction of both Houſes of Parliament, excluding Us from any Power in the Diſpoſition or Execution of it together with you. We then adviſed you for many reaſons that a Bill ſhould be prepared, and after in Our anſwer of the twenty ſix of *March* laſt to the Petition of both Houſes, wee told you if ſuch a Bill ſhould bee prepared with that due regard to Us, and care of Our people in the limitation of the power and other Circumſtances, we ſhould recede from nothing wee formerly expreſſed. What paſſed (enough to have diſcouraged Us from being further Sollicitous in that Argument) after our full and gracious Anſwers, we are content to forget. When we reſolved of Our Journey into *Ireland* (ſo that by reaſon of Our abſence there might bee no want of ſetling that power, beſides complying with your feares) we ſent, together with a Meſſage of that our purpoſe, a Bill for the ſetling that power for a yeare, hoping in that time to returne to you, and being ſure that in much leſſe time you might doe the buſineſſe for which you ſeemed at firſt to deſire this, which was, That you might ſecurely conſider Our Meſſage of the 20. of *Ianuary* laſt. By that Bill wee conſented to thoſe names you propoſed in your Ordinance and in the limitation of the Power, provided that Our Selfe ſhould not be able to execute any thing but by your advice, and when we ſhould be out of the kingdome, the

the ſole Execution to be in you; with many other things of ſo arbitrary and uncircumſcribed a power, that we ſhould not have conſented to, but with reference to the abſence of Our owne Perſon out of the Kingdome, and thought it the more ſufferable in reſpect the time was but for a yeare. Whether this be the Bill you have now ſent paſſe, let all the world judge.

You have by this Bill now tendred to us, (without taking notice of us) put the power of the whole kingdome The Life and liberties of the ſubjects of all degrees and qualities, into the hands of particular men for two yeeres. Can you imagine we will truſt ſuch an abſolute Power in the hands of particular perſons, which wee refuſed to commit to both Houſes of Parliament? Nay, is not the Power it ſelfe too abſolute, too unlimited to be committed into any private hands? hath not Sir *John Hothams* high inſolencie ſhewed us what we may expect from an exorbitant legall power, when he, by a power not warrãted by law, dares venture upon a treaſonable diſobedience? But We would willingly know (& indeed ſuch an account in ordinary Civility We might have expected) why We are by this Act abſolutely excluded from any Power or Authority in the execution of this *Militia*. Sure your Feares and Iealouſies are not of ſuch a nature, as are capable of no other remedy, then by leaving Us no Power in a point of the greateſt importance, in which God and the Law hath truſted Us ſolely, and which We were contented to ſhare with you by Our Bill, by putting it and a greater into the hands of particular Subiects. What would all Chriſtian Princes thinke of Us, after We had paſſed ſuch a Bill? How would they valew Our Soveraignty? And yet ſure Our Reputation with Forraign Princes is ſome ground of your ſecurity. Nay, We are confident, by that time you have thorowly conſidered the poſſible conſequence of the Bill upon

ou your ſelves, and the reſt of Our good Subjects, you and they will give Us thanks for not conſenting to it, finding their condition (had it paſſed) not to have been ſo pleaſing unto them. We hope this Animadverſion will be no breach of your Priviledges in this throng of Buſineſſe, and Diſtemper of Affections: T is poſſible, ſecond thoughts may preſent ſomewhat to your conſiderations which eſcaped you before.

We paſſed this Parliament at your entreaty a Bill concerning the Captives at *Algiers*, and waved many Objections of Our own to the contrary, upon Information that the Buſineſſe had beene many Moneths conſidered by you; Whether it prove ſutable to your intentions, or whether you have not by ſome private Orders ſuſpended that Act of Parliament, upon view of the miſtakings, you beſt know: As likewiſe what other great Alterations you have made in other Bills paſſed this Seſſions. We cannot paſſe over the putting their names out of this Bill whom before you recommended to Us in your Ordinance, it ſeemes not thinking fit to truſt thoſe who would obey no Guide but the Law of the Land (We imagine you would not wiſh We ſhould in Our eſtimation of others follow that your Rule) and the leaving out by ſpeciall proviſion the preſent Lord Major of *London*, as a perſon in your diſfavour; Whereas We muſt tell you, his Demeanour hath been ſuch, that the City, and the whole Kingdome is beholding to him for his Example.

To conclude, we doe not finde our ſelfe poſſeſſed of ſuch an exceſſe of power, that it is fit to transferre, or conſent it ſhould be in other perſons (as is directed by this bill) and therefore we ſhall rely upon that Royall Right and Juriſdiction which God and the Law hath given us for the ſuppreſſing of Rebellion, and reſiſting forreigne invaſion, which hath preſerved this Kingdome in the time of

all our ancestors, and which we doubt not, but we shall be able to execute; and not more for our owne honour and right, then for the liberty and safety of our people, we cannot consent to passe this Bill.

His Majesties second Message to the Parliament, concerning Sir *John Hothams* Refusall to give His *Majesty* entrance into His Towne of *Hull*.

WE are so much concerned in the undutifull affront (an indignity all Our good Subiects must disdaine in our behalf) We received from Sir John Hotham at Hull, that we are impatient till we receive Justice from you; and are compelled to call againe for an Answer, being confident (however you would be so carefull, (though without Our consent) to put a Garrison into that Our Town, to secure it and Our Magazine against any attempts of the Papists) that you never intended to dispose and maintaine it against Us your Soveraign: Therefore We require you forthwith (for the Businesse will admit no delay) That you take some speedy course, that Our said Town and Magazine be immediately delivered up into Us, and that such severe exemplary proceedings be against those persons (who have offered Us this insupportable affront and injury) as by the Law is provided: And till this be done, we shall intend no Businesse whatsoever

(or)

(other Then the businesse of Ireland) For if we are brought into a Condition so much worse then any of our Subjects, that whilest you all enjoy your Priviledges, and may not have your Possessions disturbed, or your Titles questioned, we onely may be spoiled, thrown out of Our Towns, and Our goods taken from Us; 'tis time to examine how we have lost those Priviledges, and to try all possible Wayes, by the help of God, The Law of the Land, and The affection of Our good Subjects, to recover them, and vindicate Our selfe from those Injuries. And if we shall miscarry herein, we shall be the first Prince of this Kingdom that hath done so; having no other end, but to defend The true Protestant Profession, The Law of the Land, and The Liberties of the Subject: And God so deal with Us, as we continue in those Resolutions.

FINIS.